

LOUISIANA TECHNOLOGY INNOVATIONS FUND – PROGRESS REPORT**SEPTEMBER 1, 2001****I. DEPARTMENT/AGENCY**

The Department of Health and Hospitals/Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

II. PROJECT TITLE

OCDD Specialty Telemedicine Partnership

III. PROJECT LEADER

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IV. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

This is a project intended for the provision of specialty medical care for residents of the state's developmental centers operated by the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) within the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH). It entails a telemedicine partnership between OCDD and expertise wherever it exists, such as LSU Medical Center (LSUMC) in New Orleans, by way of a multi-functional data/voice/video network. Utilizing standards-based, interoperable, state-of-the-art communications technology, OCDD can access medical consults, clinics, and education in specialties related to developmental disabilities for the care of its residential clients. Further, under the concept of community capacity building, OCDD can share this knowledge with other local practitioners and partners to advance the quality of medical care throughout the state.

V. PROJECT STATUS*A. Brief Summary*

As of this date, the project is complete under the terms and support of the Louisiana Technology Innovations Fund (LTIF). However, the LTIF grant will serve as "seed" money to cultivate the further development of telemedicine in DHH in two ways: First, DHH will continue to explore the complementary compressed video standards H.320 (ISDN) and H.323 (IP) to optimize telemedicine's reach and flexibility. Second, in addition to OCDD, the DHH Offices of Addictive Disorders, Management and Finance, Mental Health, and Public Health expect to contribute to expanding the infrastructure built with LTIF funds to provide the benefits of telemedicine to their clients. A final project report will be prepared as required by the MOU.

B. Accomplishments

During this six-month reporting period, the project recorded the following accomplishments:

☞ Demonstrated the network security necessary to guarantee the confidentiality of medical records and information.

☞ Presented more than 50 telemedicine programs.

~~✓~~ Implemented a self-scheduling function to facilitate telemedicine events.

~~✓~~ Initiated a multi-year curriculum for OCDD direct support professionals through the Comprehensive Public Training Program.

~~✓~~ Continued to evaluate LAN and WAN capabilities to transmit H.323 telemedicine video.

C. Problems Encountered/Action Taken or Planned

Problems remain with the ability of existing LANs and WANs to accommodate the bandwidth requirements of video by IP. Hardware upgrades budgeted by DHH are in progress.

D. Major Milestones (Original vs. Current Estimate)

	<u>ORIGINAL</u>	<u>CURRENT</u>
Site modifications	3 months	Complete
Selection of equipment	4 months	Complete
Network connectivity	5 months	Complete
System-wide implementation	12 months	Complete
Testing H.323 functionality	18 months	Complete

VI. COST VS. BUDGET

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>ACTUAL*</u>	<u>PROJECTED</u>	<u>SURPLUS</u>
A. Equipment	\$733,792	\$715,133	\$715,133	\$18,659
B. Software	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
C. Telecommunications	\$170,250	\$127,087	\$127,087	\$43,163
D. Professional/Contract Services	\$52,940	\$52,940	\$52,940	\$0
E. Other Costs (borne by DHH)	\$55,000	\$78,002	\$78,002	\$(-23,002)
Total Project Cost	\$1,011,982	\$973,162	\$973,162	\$38,820

VII. ITEMIZED EXPENSES AND FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS INCURRED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD*

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>
Equipment	\$244,008
Telecommunications	\$44,925

* Documentation on file at DHH.